

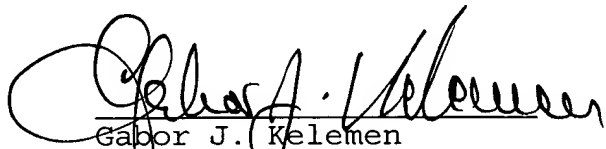
A4  
14.(amended) A method according to claim 11,  
characterized in that the partial amount of the gaseous  
mixture is adjusted such that the reaction temperature (T)  
in the first partial region (T1) is lower than in the  
second partial region (T2).

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes  
to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached page  
is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to  
eliminate the multiple dependency of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 14 have been amended as follows:

3.(amended) A recombination device (1, 1') according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, **characterized in that** the catalyst body (6) in the second sub region (T2) comprises a plate-shaped sheet metal carrier that is coated with a catalyst material.

5.(amended) A recombination device (1') according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, **characterized in that** the retarding layer (8) in the first sub region (T1) in particular is a porous layer composed of a bulk material, in which the catalyst body (6) is arranged.

6.(amended) A recombination device (1) according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, **characterized in that** the retarding layer (8) in the first sub region (T1) is deposited as porous cover layer onto the catalyst body (6).

7.(amended) A recombination device (1) according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, **characterized in that** several

identical catalyst systems (2) are arranged parallel to each other.

9.(amended) A recombination device (1, 1') according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterized in that an up-current protection (10) is provided at the front end of the catalyst system (2), in inflow direction of the gaseous mixture.

10.(amended) A recombination device (1, 1') according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, characterized in that a down current protection (12) is arranged in outflow direction of the gaseous mixture, at the end of the catalyst system (2).

14.(amended) A method according to ~~one of the claims 11 to 13~~ claim 11, characterized in that the partial amount of the gaseous mixture is adjusted such that the reaction temperature (T) in the first partial region (T1) is lower than in the second partial region (T2).